

THE  
HISTORY  
OF THE  
LIFE and SUFFERINGS  
OF  
*HENRY GRACE,*  
OF *K*

BASINGSTOKE in the County of *Southampton.*

Being a NARRATIVE  
Of the Hardships he underwent during several Years  
Captivity among the

SAVAGES in *NORTH AMERICA,*  
And of the Cruelties they practise to their unhappy  
Prisoners.

In which is introduced

An Account of the several Customs and Manners of the  
different Nations of INDIANS ; as well as a compendious  
Description of the Soil, Produce and various Animals of  
those Parts.

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Written by HIMSELF.

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THE SECOND EDITION.

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THE  
STORY  
OF THE  
LIFE AND SUFFERINGS  
OF  
MARY GRACE

Bainbridge in the County of Kent

REVISTA

Conduct among the

NAVY & NORTH AMERICA

And of the Church, that practice to their happiness.

In which is introduced

As Assistant of the General Customs and Members of the  
different National Societies; as well as a Commissioner  
for the collection of the 2nd. Estate and various forms of  
the same.


THE 2 M 1 H 4 7

THE 3567 B DITION

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THE  
HISTORY  
OF THE  
LIFE and SUFFERINGS  
OF  
*HENRY GRACE,*


 WAS born at *Basingstoke* in  
 the County of *Southampton*, and  
 there educated in a liberal  
 Manner till I was ten Years of  
 Age; when my Father sent  
 me to *Winchester* College, intending to make  
 me a Clergyman: I remained in the College  
 from the Year 1740 to 1746, during which  
 Time I indulged myself in a Course of Idle-  
 ness; and, keeping bad Company, neglected  
 A all



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all the Advice of my Friends, and incurred the Displeasure of my Tutor, and the Hatred of my Schoolfellows. Wherefore I took a Resolution to enlist for a Soldier, which I accordingly did in the first Regiment that came to *Winchester*, being General *Lascelles's*. After various Marches and Countermarches to different Parts of *England*, we were ordered to *Guernsey* to embark in the Transport *True Love*, with three Weeks Provision only; but a Storm overtaking us in Sight of the Island, drove us to the Bay of *Biscay*, and continued with such Violence that we lost Sight of Land for seven Weeks, and the Vessel and Crew were reduced to the greatest Distress; the one being very leaky, and the other almost famished. This was the first Fruits of following my own Will, in Opposition to the Advice of my Parents; and happy would it have been for me, had it been the last. The Storm, however, ceasing, we proceeded with a favourable Wind to *Guernsey*, where we performed nine Months hard Duty, and soon after returned to *England*. We remained in *England* some Time, till we received Orders to go to *Liverpool*, from whence we proceeded to *Dublin*, and continued there upon Duty eighteen Months; we soon after received Orders from *England*, to hold ourselves in readiness to go to *Nova Scotia*, and a  
great



great Quantity of Equipage was prepared for us; the Stores, &c. were all ready the twenty-eighth Day of *May*. We went on Board the thirtieth of the same Month, and set sail the first of *June*, 1750, having thirteen Vessels in Company. The very next Day we had a great Storm, which scattered all our Ships; some made out to Sea, and others to the first Ports they could reach. We soon lost Sight of one another; the Vessel I belonged to was driven into the Cove of *Cork*, where we staid eight Days waiting for a fair Wind.

We had very bad Weather when we set out from *Cork*, and a worse Misfortune attended us; for we sprung a Leak under the Fore-Mast of our Vessel, and could not get at it to stop it, and, for eight Days successively, we pump'd with two Pumps, while others laboured to lave the Water out with Buckets; and this we were obliged to do Night and Day, till we came into *Halifax* in *Nova Scotia*. We got in there the 15th Day of *August*, three Weeks after all the rest of the Vessels that set out with us; we were immediately ordered on Shore, and encamped, till we had Orders to take *Shegnecto*.

*Halifax*, when I was there, had but few Houses, and those all built with Wood; the very Stumps and Roots of Trees, that grew there

before the Town was built, remained betwixt the Houses. It was very dangerous to walk about in the Night, especially in wet Weather; because the Streets were so slippery and rough, and full of Stumps.

There is an Island over-against the Town full of Wood, but before I returned they had built a strong Fortification there; two or three Forts were made at the upper Part of the Town, and a Blockhouse in each, to put some small Pieces of Cannon in, to be used against the Indians. The Forts were piquetted all round, and Holes cut to fire the Small Arms through. All the Vessels that go into that Harbour, are obliged to pass close under the Island. It is a very fine Harbour, as no Weather can hurt the Ships lying at Anchor.

Every Centinel was allowed the King's Provisions; good Bread was sold three Pounds for Six-pence, but fresh Meat was very dear, being one Shilling a Pound, though hardly any Fat to be seen on it; there was great Plenty of excellent Fish.

All round *Halifax* the Land is very bad, sandy and gravelly, and produces no Vegetables, but all Sorts of Timber both hard and soft.

*Sbeg-*

*Shagneeto*, which the French and Indians had in their Possession, is a poor Place, having only about two or three Houses, and a Windmill ; but an English Fort is since erected there, which is called *Lawrence*, after the Name of the Commander of our Detachment. The Country in Summer is very delightful, but People who are not used to it are almost devoured by the Muskitoes and black Flies. There are two Sorts, one is as big as the Head of a Pin, and the other as small as the Point ; you cannot discern them till they bite, and then the Flesh swells in Blisters as if it was poisoned ; and, if you scratch it, it will turn to bad Consequence. In Summer, whoever goes to the Side of the Woods, cannot see twenty Yards before their Faces in calm Weather, there are such Clouds of Muskitoes and black Flies. The Land produces all Sorts of Grain, with less Trouble than in *England*, and there is no Occasion for Dung, the Soil is so good of itself ; but the Winters are long and cold. The Summers are always very pleasant ; fine and warm Showers till Harvest, and then clear dry Weather till the Close of the Year, when there falls great Quantities of Snow, which stays upon the Ground three or four Months, and sometimes longer.

We



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We marched from *Halifax* to *Pisgate* through the Woods, and lodged one whole Night in them; I could not forbear thinking it very hard to lye on the cold Ground, though I had my Cloaths and a good Blanket to cover me at the same Time; but that Hardship soon became so familiar to me, that I began not to think it such. We got to *Pisgate* Fort the next Day, and stayed there but one Night in Camp, from whence we marched to *Menas*.

*Pisgate* Fort is built upon a Hill with upright Piquets that are pointed, and there are Blockhouses in the Fort, with Cannon; the Tide comes up by the Fort in a little River, and small Vessels can go up at high Tide. The Soil is the same as that of *Menas* and *Shegneeto*.

*Menas* Fort is built with square Timber, and placed Piece upon Piece with Blockhouses in it, the same as *Pisgate*. There is not much open Land about it, only where the French Neutrals lived; and most Part of them lived by the Sides of the Rivers all round the Country. The Woods run mostly upon Spruce and Firs, but there are all Sorts of Timber, such as Maple, Birch, and Beech, White-wood Trees, and some Cedars in the Swamps, where nothing else grows.

On

On a March the Baggage of the Officers is carried on little Horses, who are wonderfully strong, will carry very heavy Loads, and are so sure-footed, that they will go safely in Paths through the Woods, and on Precipices where one would think a Goat could not pass.

We embarked at *Menas* to proceed to the taking of *Shagneeto*. Colonel *Lawrence* was Commander of our Detachment, and we arrived in the Morning's Tide, and were ordered on Shore, to drive the Indians out of their Intrenchments. The Intrenchment was near to the Sea-side, by a little River, and their Trenches were almost as high as a Man's Head on one Side, and on the other there was a great Ditch as deep as a Man's Middle, besides the Turf that was piled up; the Ditch was about five Feet in Breadth, and full of Water. Captain *Cobb's* Sloop, of ten Carriage Guns, and ten Cohorns, had two Companies of Rangers on Board, to land on the other Side to surround them if they could. They failed up a little River till the Tide stopped them; they played upon the Enemy so hot out of the Sloop, that they could not stand it. The Rangers went on Shore on one Side, and we landed the Cannon on the other, and soon took their Trenches and the Place without great Loss

Loss of Men. On board of Captain *Cobb* five Men were killed, and some wounded.

I was put on the Advance-Guard, and the Indians came shooting at the Centries all Night. It was a long Time before we could have any Rest for them; nor had we any fresh Meat at first, but afterwards we found Plenty of Hogs and some Sheep; yet we went through a great deal of Danger to get them. This Danger consisted of these two Circumstances: First, from the Indians, who constantly lay in Ambush to fire at us: And, Secondly, from our own People; for if we were seen far from the Line (and the Cattle were at a Distance) we run the Hazard of being taken up for Deserters.

The very next Day we mounted double Guards, and a Piquet of a hundred Men to protect the Workmen. Every Man off Duty was obliged to work, either in digging Trenches, or building the Fort; the Timber for the Fort was brought ready squared, and fit to put together, from *Boston* in *New England*. I thought it very hard to work and have scarce any Rest; but as I had as much as another, it reconciled me a little.

In about three Weeks after I came off Guard I was ordered to mount Piquet, and guard the  
Men



Men that were mowing Wheat. The Wheat is much better there than in *Europe*, and makes whiter Bread. They had nothing but Wind-mills in the Country ; not one Water-mill when I was there. It came to my Turn to go on the Centry, and stand two Hours at the Side of the Woods ; I had not been there half an Hour before I was surrounded by the Indians, who knocked me down and stunned me with one of their Tomahawks. A Tomahawk is made like a little Hatchet, and weighs about half a Pound ; it is an Instrument so necessary to them that they cannot do without it : With this they cut down their Wood for Firing, for building their Huts, and for barking the Trees for their Canoes and Wiggwams ; also for splitting the wild Beasts they kill : they are very dextrous in flinging them, so as to hit a Mark no bigger than a Crown-piece at thirty Yards Distance, and by that Means it is a dangerous Weapon in a Skirmish.

When I came to myself again, an Indian told me in English I should have very good Quarters ; many of the Tribe could talk that Language. Every Tribe and Nation have a different Language, yet there are some Words to be understood amongst them all.

B

I found

I found it was in vain to try to make my Escape. They bid me go along with them, which I did to my Sorrow. I followed them through the Woods till it was almost dark, about twelve Miles, till we came to a little Light, which was in one of their Wiggwams or Huts where they live.

A Wiggwam is a kind of Hut made with the Bark of Birch Trees. It is built in the Shape of the Top of a Wheat-Rick, and the Sides are covered with Birch Bark to keep out the Weather. There is always a Place left in the Middle at Top to let out the Smoke, and their Fire is always exactly in the Middle. In a Wiggwam there are sometimes fourteen or fifteen Men-Savages and Squaws; that is, their Wives and Children: a Place where there are twenty or more Wiggwams they call their Village. They will stay perhaps a Year or more in a Place without moving.

In their Cry for a single Prisoner or Scalp, their Voices are so sharp, shrill, loud and deep, that when they join together after one has made his Cry, it makes a most dreadful and horrible Noise, that stupifies the very Senses.

When the Cry for a Prisoner was made, all the Village ran down and stood in readiness for me.

me. I was ignorant what these Barbarians were going to do to me, but they soon shewed me. I was to run between two Rows of them, some beating me with Sticks, and some with their Hands, while others flung any thing they could lay their Hands on ; I ran till I came to the Chief Man's Wiggwam.

The Chief Man rules or governs them when they are to go a hunting, or upon any Party to take Prisoners or Scalps, or in any other Action of Consequence. This Nation of *Mumacks* contains three hundred or more, besides the Squaws and Children.

As soon as we came to the Chief Man's Wiggwam they took away my Hat, and began stripping me of every thing I had in the World, and then put me on my Knees close to a great Fire.

They light their Fires sometimes by striking with Flint and Steel against Touchwood ; but when they are driven to Necessity, and have no Touchwood, they will get a Bit of hard Wood as big as one's Thumb, but a little longer, and a Piece of dry rotten Wood, then rub them together till the rotten Wood catches Fire ; and sometimes they fire a Gun against a dry Stump, which catches immediately.



They kept me upon my Knees by this great Fire till my very Skin was burnt into Blisters, and had no Mercy on me ; for they kept on dancing around me, and sometimes they would lift their Tomahawks up as if to kill me; at other Times their Knives, taking hold of me by the Hair of my Head. At last, they made me get up from off my Knees, after they had danced most Part of the Night for their Diversion. I leave any one to judge what a Condition I must be in at that Time.

Their Dancing is no more than tossing one Foot before the other, stamping together, and flinging themselves into different Postures ; sometimes upon one Knee, sometimes on their Elbows, and sometimes upon their Bellies, crawling along to imitate their going to kill some Centinel or wild Beast, and then suddenly jump up and dance again. As for their Music it is nothing more than a Deer Skin ty'd on a Kettle, and struck sometimes fast and sometimes slow ; the Deer Skin is dressed like Parchment ; in their stamping and jumping about they keep Time with each other, and in their Dance they call upon the Names of all the Nations and Tribes in a defiancing Manner.

When they had finished their Sport, they gave me a Breech-Clout to cover my Nakedness :

ness: This is a Quarter of a Yard of wide Cloth. First they take a Lift and tye round their Middles, so one half goes before and the other behind; they also gave me a Blanket to cover my Body, a Pair of Indian Stockings made of Cloth, and a Pair of Moguffons instead of Shoes for my Feet. Moguffons are made of Deer Skins plaited round the Toes. They brought me a Tomahawk the next Morning, and ordered me to go and cut Wood. I never was used to cut Wood in my Life, and I went to work with great Reluctance, but durst not refuse to do any thing they commanded me. They always kept me employed about something or other; and as soon as I had done for one Wiggwam I went to another, so that my Labour was everlasting.

In about a Week after they brought home two Scalps from *Dartmouth*. *Dartmouth* is on one Side of the Harbour, and *Halifax* on the other. I could not think what they were, having never seen a Scalp before; but they soon made me feel what it was, by beating it in my Face. At Night they began dancing for Joy of their Success in taking these two Scalps, and they made me stand up and practise dancing along with them till Morning, and I took a great deal of Pains to do as they did, though I performed very awkwardly, for which they  
beat

beat me. They frequently threatened me very much that they would serve me after the same Manner, if I did not behave well.

Every Week these Indians were allowed Provisions from the French King; we used to go for them to the Stores in Forts that the King of *France* had built to protect the Indians from Enemies, and secure their Obedience. There was one Fort at the Point of *Beaucejour*, and another at *Shediak*, where there were but four Houses in all, and hardly any cleared Land about it. We were in the Island of *Cockeen*, and had eighteen Miles to go to the French Stores for our Provision. I was obliged to go with the Indian Squaws after it; we used to set out every Time at Day-break to go thither, and take our Loads upon our Backs; but as for me, they put such Loads upon me that I was ready to sink under them. The Provision that the French allowed them was salt Beef, Pork and Pease, and Indian Corn. We were obliged to carry it eighteen Miles through the Woods. It was four Days before I could bring my Stomach to their Diet, it was so filthy and wretched. They eat their Meat sometimes raw, and sometimes they would fling it upon the Fire till it was a little warm, and at other Times they would put it in a Kettle and boil it with the Hairs sticking about it, and eat it not one quarter



ter done. But Hunger will make a Man eat what he could not think on, and Necessity will force one to do any thing. In Old *England* such Stuff would not have been eaten for all the World. Four or five Days after they made a Party. The Design of their Parties is never known but to their own People. When they propose to go to take Prisoners or Scalps, they consist of different Numbers, according to the Plan they have laid. They will wait two or three Days in a Place under a Tree, close by the Side of the Woods, till somebody passes by, when they will rush out upon them, if they are sure they are the strongest; but if they find themselves weakest, they will fire and run away. If there is but one Englishman, and their party consists of two or three, they will kill him if he does not immediately surrender, and sometimes they will kill him and not ask any Questions.

They lay in Ambush two Days, and then brought a Man's Head to the Wigwam, and made a terrible Cry. I did not know for what, but they soon made me sensible what it was, by beating it in my Face with such Violence as broke the Gristle of my Nose; for three Months I could not fetch my Breath through my Nose, nor take any Rest Night or Day for the Pain and Misery I suffered by their severe Treatment.

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ment. I have often kneeled down and prayed to God Almighty to take me out of the World, for I thought I should never have been able to endure the Misery I suffered.

They tied the Man's Head to the Branch of a Tree, and fired at it all the next Day, and nothing would serve their Turns but I must fire at it too, which I durst not refuse, for Fear of their serving me after the same Manner. This Man's Name was *Joseph Goddard*, belonging to the same Regiment with me; he was chopping Wood near *Shagneeto*, by the Side of the Woods, to make a Fire for his Wife, because she washed for the Company: A great many Indians got round him, and asked him to surrender; but he told them he would not, on which they fired at him, and shot him through in several Places; he fell upon his Knees, and fought to the last, and cut and wounded many of them in a dangerous Manner. They were horribly provoked at the long Resistance he made, and the deep Wounds he gave several of their Companions. After they knew this Man belonged to the same Corps I did, I was in danger of my Life every Minute.

Two or three Days afterwards they brought in three Prisoners alive; they took them out of a Boat that was driven ashore, by the Violence

of

of the Wind and Tide, which being against them, hindered them getting their Boat out to Sea. I did not know their Names. They came from *New England*, and were treated most cruelly. I thought they would have killed them, as they tied them to the Trees, and let them stay there all Night stark naked, beating them so severely that they could not stand when they were let loose; as for my Part I durst not say one Word to the poor Men, for Fear of my own Life.

Still I was obliged to find five Wiggwams in Wood to burn, four of which did not belong to the same Family as myself. Though I had not eat any thing all Day, and had been carrying great Burdens; yet when I came to the Wiggwam late at Night, in hopes of getting a little Rest, I was obliged to seek for Wood and bring it on my Shoulders home. Sometimes it rained and was very dark, nevertheless I was forced to go or die, for I knew what I had to trust to. I bore it however very patiently, and durst not utter a Word of Complaint.

The next Day they held a Council. Their holding Councils is when all the Heads and oldest Men meet together, and contrive how to go about any thing that they design to take in Hand. This Time they held a Coun-



cil concerning the taking an English Fort, and they pitched upon the first dark Night afterwards to execute their Design. But the English having Intelligence of their Intention, were prepared to receive them. And when they came to the Fort called Fort *Lawrence* lately built, the English suffered them to proceed almost into the Trenches, when they fired upon them all round the Fort, and killed a great many of them; so that they were obliged to return with great Sorrow and Lamentation, which they expressed by doleful Cries and Howling.

Afterwards they went down and took a little Vessel in the River that divided the Territories of the English from the French, and killed all the People that were on Board, in Revenge for their late Defeat. The Way that they surprized the People of the Vessel was this: On a very dark Night they took a Canoe, and went softly on Board; I suppose the Man upon Deck who ought to have been on the Watch was asleep, and they surprized him, and then went on Board and killed all the rest. There were seven or eight of them, but I do not know what cruel Death they suffered. They took what they pleased out of the Vessel, but what they were fondest of was spirituous Liquors. When they had plundered the Vessel, they set it on Fire and burned it. After that they began drinking,  
and

and drank to such a Degree, that they were all stark staring mad, and then sought after the poor unfortunate Prisoners, in Order to kill them for their Diversion ; but as for me, I had a very narrow Escape, having luckily gained the Favour of some of the Squaws, who were so kind as to hide me under a great Tub before a Frenchman's Door, where I continued for three Days. There were some dancing round the House, some sitting upon the Tub that I was under, and others looking after me, and the rest of the poor Prisoners ; had they found us, they would have put us to the most cruel Death they could think on ; they caught however only one, and we never heard what became of him ; he was probably barbarously murdered, but it was at some Distance from us. When they found they could not discover the others, they fought with one another till they were tired, using Knives or any thing they could lay their Hands on.

In the mean Time the French Neutrals, and some Soldiers that came from *Canada*, robbed them of the Liquor they had taken from the English. When the Indians came to themselves, and were sober, they asked their Squaws for the Prisoners. The Squaws told them that they had killed us ; to which they answered, that they were very sorry for it. When the Squaws lifted up the Tub, I was cramped to such a De-

gree, that I could not stir for a considerable Time. When I recovered the Use of my Limbs they endeavoured to persuade me that they were very glad to see me, but it was hard to believe them, because they used me and the rest of the Prisoners so barbarously afterwards, for if it had not been for the Kindness of the Squaws we must have been all killed.

The old Squaws drink as bad as the Men, but the young ones do not care for it, so that they get out of their Way when they are drinking; but the Squaws that have their Companions, which they call their Husbands, will dance and drink quite naked along with the Men. They have all blood-thirsty Minds, and are a very jealous sort of People; insatiable in their Revenge, to gratify which they will refuse no Difficulty or Danger. Otherwise they are lazy and sluggish, and hate all Employment except hunting and fighting; in their Lodging, Diet, and Dress, they are filthy and nasty to the last Degree; Strangers to all the Rules of Decency and Modesty, and seem almost void of natural Affection; being more careless of their Offspring than Brutes. As soon as their Children come into the World, they will carry them to the Water, and duck and wash them all over, after which they will wrap them in a Bit of Cloth, and put them upon a Board which is made on Purpose,  
with



with a large Hoop bent round at Top, and comes down even on both Sides : There are Holes made through on each Side, and they lace the Children with a List of Cloth to the Board, and carry them upon their Backs through the Woods, or wherever they go, and in all Weathers.

The Way that they marry is as they sit round the Fire at Night ; the Indian Man takes something he has some Value for, and flings it into the Squaw's Lap that he has a Liking to ; the Squaw flings it back again to the Indian, he returns it three Times ; and the third Time, if the Squaw keeps it, they are married. This is all the Ceremony of their Marriage, as far as I know.

They had three Prisoners besides myself at one Time. At another Time they consulted to make two Parties, the one to go hunting, the other scalping. The poor Prisoners and Squaws were of the hunting Party, and were obliged to bring home what wild Beasts were killed in the Woods. The scalping Party most Days brought in either a Prisoner or Scalp. I cannot compare their Usage of the poor Prisoners to any thing but the baiting of a Bull with Dogs in a Market-Place, when he is tied to a Stake. One Day, as we were going to fetch  
the

the Provisions, we had very fine Weather in the Morning; but as we returned back, the Snow fell so fast that we could not see two Yards before our Faces, and one of our poor Prisoners cried out, *Lord have Mercy upon my Soul, my dear Fellow-Sufferers help me*; but we could not, for the Indians drove us along like so many Pack-horses loaded, so that we could give no Relief to our poor Fellow-Prisoner; so he cried, *Farewell, for I can go no farther*. The Savages drove us on a little further, and then made us stop till they brought up his Luggage, and the poor Man's Scalp, and beat it in our Faces, telling us they would serve us in the same Manner, if we did not take Care of ourselves. They then parted the unhappy Man's Load betwixt us; but before we came to the Wiggwams it was quite dark, and we were half Leg deep in Snow, yet we were obliged afterwards to go and fetch Wood for them. The next Morning the Snow was two Feet deep. They brought me a Pair of Snow Shoes to put on my Feet; the Snow Shoes are made with a large Hoop, square at the Top, and peaked at the Heel, round and large in the Middle, and are worked like a Cane Chair bottom to tread upon; there are two Cross-bars, one at the Toe and another just behind the Heel; it is made either out of the Skin of a Bear or some large wild

wild Beast, cut in Strips. When the Snow is six Feet deep they can walk without sinking, and as well with them as without ; as for me I tumbled a hundred Times a Day Head foremost in the Snow, till I had learned the Manner of managing them, and then I could walk very well and safely.

We were once twelve Prisoners all alive together ; some were taken near *Halifax*, and some at *Shegneeto*, some belonging to General *Hobson's* Regiment, and some to *Warbritton's* ; but we were not allowed to speak together at any Time : They soon lessened our Number by taking away some of their Lives, knocking them on the Head with their Tomahawks, and then scalping them. We were hard put to it one Day, being sent to fetch some Provisions from the French, having a long Way to go with Snow Shoes on our Feet, and to draw an Indian Train with a heavy Load upon it. An Indian Train is a Board made of Maple or Birch Wood ; it is turned up before very much, and the rest is all straight like a Board. They tye it with the Indian Collars they carry with them. These Collars are made with the Roots of Trees, about six Feet in Length, and in the Middle one Foot broad, and the two Ends not above a Finger's Breadth, but very long, and is fastened to the Bent of the Train. These  
Trains



Trains they will load from one End to the other, whatever they put on to be drawn, is tied for Fear of dropping off going up hill. Sometimes we draw 2 or 3 Cwt. Two of the Prisoners could not draw their Loads, being all Day on the Foot without Food, and the Load so heavy; whereupon they killed them before our Eyes with the Tomahawks, and scalped them, beating the Scalps in our Faces, and added their Loads to ours. We were not got above two Miles farther before they killed another, and that loaded us who were left alive still more; but we all knew what we had to trust to, if we failed in any thing they ordered us to do.

After I had continued fourteen Months with this Family, they sold me and five more Prisoners to the *St. John's* Indians. I found little Relief by the Change of Masters. All the Indians are of the same cruel Temper, are insensible of Compassion to their poor Prisoners, and seem to take delight in putting them to Pain and Torment, or to frighten them with the Terror of it, or of Death itself. We stayed six Weeks in the Island of *St. John*. I know little of that Place, having been no farther in it than the first Indian Village. I was employed in serving them in whatever they wanted, or ordered me to do, whilst they were employed in framing and fitting out two Canoes. My Heart ached  
all

all the Time, as I considered what new kind of Sorrow I was to be exposed to. They prepared to go a hunting into the upper Countries at a vast Distance, and to make the Journey the greatest Part of the Way by Water. We first went to *Ristigusti* River, where we darted a great many Fish. Their Method of darting them is this: They fasten a Dart to the End of a long Pole, and go up the River very gently in their Canoe, keeping along close to the Shore, and when they aim at a Fish, seldom miss striking it. I can give no Account of the Land or Soil of this Country, as we only passed by it. If it happens to be bad Weather, the Fish run up the River for Shelter.

From *Ristigusti* we proceeded to *Managna* River, which is only passible for Boats; but the Country all round it seemed to be very pleasant. Our Provision now grew short, the Weather was bad, and the Fish were gone. We killed a Dog to eat. They keep several Dogs which are of a mixed Breed, between a Wolf and a Bitch; they are of great Use in their hunting, particularly in finding Bears, Racoons, and Porcupines, which hide themselves in hollow Trees, where they are scented by the Dogs, who by their baying discover the Game. If they perceive a Bear in a hollow Tree, the Indians come up to the Tree, and make a great hallooing; and if the Bear does not come out, they light a great Fire hard by, to get some Firebrands; and, having cut a Hole in the Tree, put some Brands in it, to smok him out;

and if they have Time will fire at him as he comes down, which he always does backwards. Their Method of taking the Racoans and Porcupines, is by cutting down the Trees and chopping them out. A Man must, however, be on his Guard, and not run near them in a Hurry, but must stay till they shake themselves and have shot their Quills, and then he may run in and knock them on the Head. They discharge their Quills at once all around them, and will kill a Man at two Yards Distance, or grievously wound him, but they take a long Time recruiting for a second Discharge. Their Quills are not larger than those of a Crow, but are of a peculiar Make, jagged all along, so as not to be drawn out from the Place where they enter. To get them out, an Incision must be made to the Depth the Quill has pierced; or, if left alone, they will in Time work themselves out, without doing much Harm.

It was fine Weather, and they would not stay any longer in the River *Managna*; from thence we went to *Argyle* River, where some of our Indians, and two Englishmen, went a hunting. The Indians came home, but lost the two Englishmen in the Woods, and never saw them after; they were left there to shift for themselves, without Fire-Arms, or any Sort of Provision, or any thing to make a Fire with, so that they must have perished unless they happened to meet somebody in the Woods, which was very unlikely, because it was a very lonesome Place. From thence we went to

*Gaspè*



*Gaspè* River, where we staid six Days, and caught Plenty of Cod. There is a Bay at *Gaspè*, large enough to hold four hundred Vessels of the Line at a Time : It is just at the Entrance of the River *St. Lawrence*. From thence we went along that River to *Notre Dame*, where we staid and fished, but some went a hunting. We next proceeded to *St. Barnaby's*, where two Indians, who went out to fish by themselves in the Canoe, were by the Violence of the Wind driven upon the Rocks, and perished. The next Day we went for *St. Anne's*, and when we came into the Middle of *St. Lawrence's* River, we hoisted Sail, and having a little Wind, and the Tide with us, we run fast.

*Notre Dame*, *St. Barnaby's*, and *St. Anne's*, are small Parishes, consisting of a few Houses situate by the River Side, each having a handsome Church.

Near *St. Anne's* there is a great Chain of Rocks which run out a great Way in the River ; they did not know it till it was too late for us to get back, the Wind and Tide being strong against us, we run upon the Rocks and stove our Canoe ; by which Accident, four Savages and the rest of our poor Prisoners were lost, and we who survived, were in a miserable Condition, up to our Necks in Water, standing upon the Chain of Rocks, till the French came to our Assistance with one of their Boats. As soon as we were ashore, the Indians borrowed the Boat in order to save their Canoe, which was not sunk, tho' so much damaged

as to require ten Days to mend her. When the Indians go any Journey in their Canoes, they have always the Precaution to carry Rolls of Bark to mend them, Roots to sew them, and Gum to stop the Holes. At length we had nothing left to eat, and the French would not give us any thing; so we were obliged to take some from them by Force to keep us alive. There were no wild Beasts to be found thereabouts, and besides we had lost all our Guns, and every thing except the Blankets that had been round us, which the French took up as they came to us. From thence we went to *Quebec*, and the French gave us some Provisions, Guns, and Ammunition. We had them from the Merchants on Credit, to be paid for in Skins, when we returned from the upper Country. We staid there but two Days, and had Plenty of Provisions given us by the Governor; the first Night we lay at the *Point de Shambo*, and the next Day we went to the *Three Rivers*, and from thence to *St. Francis* on the South Side of the Lake *St. Pierre*. They made their Cry before they came to the Indian Town for a Prisoner, at which my Heart trembled within me for Fear of what I had to go through. I knew they would make me run the Gantlope as soon as I arrived, and so they did, but did not hurt me; yet they made me suffer enough at Night, by making me kneel down whilst they danced around me, for their Pleasure, till Morning. This Nation is called *Abenauise*, who were very kind to the Indians I was along with;  
for

for they gave them a great deal of Deer's and Bear's Flesh dried over the Smoke for five or six Months before, and also some Indian Corn. They are subject to the French.

We went from thence to *Montreal*, where we staid nine Days getting Provisions, Guns, and Ammunition from the Merchants on Trust, till we came from the upper Country. We set out from *Montreal*, and carried our Canoes upon our Backs six Miles, till we came above the Rapids of *St. Louis*: On one Side the Boats are drawn up with much Difficulty, and the Men are obliged to be in the Water, some with Cords, and some with Poles; and such is the Nature of the Falls of Water in this Rapid, that the Ascent and Descent is impracticable on the same Side of the River. The Boats that are drawn up on one Side, cannot be brought down on the same. And such as swim down swiftly on the other, cannot be dragged up the same Channel. When we got into the Canoe, we crossed the River to the *Iroquois* Nation. It happened that the greater Part of these Indians were gone a hunting to the same Country to which we were going, so there were but few left behind, being only such as were left to plant Indian Corn for the Winter following. I was obliged to run the Gantlope there too, as I had done before, to make me free of the Country as they call it. The Captives are never forced to run the Gantlope in the same Nation twice, though they pass through several different Villages of it. This Nation was  
the



the most treacherous, in every Shape, of all that I passed through. They would take a Scalp from the French, and carry it to the English to get a Reward ; and then coming back would take some Scalps from the English and bring to the French, and receive Rewards from them likewise. Though they pretend to be Friends and Allies to the English, yet the poor Prisoners, though English, are worse treated by no Nation than by the *Iroquois*.

The next Day we went to the Rapids, called by the French the Cedar Rapids ; in coming down which General *Amberst* lost above two hundred Men, for Want of proper Guides to direct them into the right Channel and Passages. Here we were obliged to take up our Canoe and carry it with every thing we had nine Miles, before we could put it into the Water again. After that, we were five Days before we got up all the Rapids to the still Water ; we had then twenty-one Miles to go to a French Fort, which is called *Le Gallet*. In the Rapids I was sometimes obliged to be in the Water up to my Middle, and at others up to my Neck, drawing up the Canoe. There is an Indian Town behind Fort *Le Gallet*, which is the Remainder of the *Iroquois* Nation. I was there used very well, and no Cry was made for a Prisoner, because I had run the Gantlope in that Nation before, and was free to them. They brought me Plenty of dried Meat and Indian Corn boiled ; indeed it was almost Time I had something to eat, having been three or four Days without a Mouth-  
ful

ful of any Kind of Provisions whatsoever: We staid there eight Days a hunting, to get some Meat to carry with us, and had pretty good Success, though there were not many Deer in that Country. We went from thence to another French Fort called *Frontenac*, and there traded for some Provisions: This Fort is built with Stone Walls, and there was no Cannon mounted when I was there. The Garrison consisted of about fourteen Men, who were left to trade with the Indians, and to take Care of the Stores. At *Toronto*, another Place belonging to the French, there was no Fortification, till this last War. *Niagara* is a Fort built with Timber, and has four Pieces of Cannon in it; it is opposite to *Frontenac*, cross the Lake *Ontario*; there were two Sloops that carried Stores and Provisions from one Fort to the other. We got Provisions enough at Fort *Frontenac* to last us till we arrived at *Niagara*. We went along the North Side of the Lake *Ontario*. This Lake is 180 Miles in Length, and 60 in Breadth; there are many Rivers run into it, and the great River *St. Lawrence* proceeds from it; it communicates with the Lake *Erie* by a River 36 Miles in Length, in which are the Falls of *Niagara*. In these Lakes there are Plenty of Sturgeons, Pike, and Cat-Fish, but I did not see any others that I could tell the Names of. It abounds with Fowls; in the Autumn and in the Spring, with Swans, wild Geese, Ducks, Mallonets, Divers, Gallowns, Cercels, and Plenty of Turtle. We went along very gently, hunting  
as

as we went, and killed a great many Deer, besides wild Beasts, whose Skins were of considerable Value.

The Indians, when they go hunting, look out narrowly for some wild Beast's Track, and as they can tell how long he has passed it, they follow it till they come near enough to shoot at him; and if they miss their Aim, which seldom happens, they let him run, while they take a contrary Way to meet him, and sometimes wait five or six Hours in a Place before the Beast comes by, when they are sure to kill him.

Wild Cats are sometimes found in Trees, as well as Bears, Raccoons, and Porcupines, and are like the common ones in every Shape except their Tail, which resembles that of a Hare. These Creatures are easily found in the Autumn and Winter; but in the Spring, the wild Beasts never continue in one Place, but are always on the Hunt for Food.

An Indian, who was hunting, found a Tyger's Den with some Whelps in it; he pulled them out to look at, and, having put them in again, came home to the rest of the Indians, and told them what he had done; they advised him to come in and sit down, as the Tygress would soon be after him: The rest of the Indians loaded their Guns in readiness for her, and in two Hours after, she came roaring along to the very Place where he was; the Indians fired at and killed her, and then went and fetched the two young ones home, and kept them till some French Traders came by, to whom



they sold them, and they were sent to *France*. If any Man has the Misfortune to touch the young Tygers, the old ones will follow them by the Track till they catch them, and tear them in Pieces in a Minute. The Panther is a very furious Creature, and will lie upon the Branch of a Tree till Deer come by, when he will jump upon them, and cut the Sinews of their Neck, that their Heads fall between their Legs.

When we came to *Niagara* Fort, the Indians traded for all things that they wanted for our Journey, and having procured from the Storekeeper half a Pint of Rum each, which is but a moderate Dram for them, we set out for the Carrying-Place, which is nine Miles in Length. This Carrying-Place is three high Hills, after passing which we had seven Miles and a half to the little *Niagara* Fort, and were obliged to carry our Canoe and every Thing that we had with us thither. I did not know the Meaning of Carrying-Place, but they soon taught me to understand it, by making me carry a very heavy Load up the Hills. Ten Indians, two Squaws, and myself, were scarce able to carry what we had; but we were forced to go twice that Day, which tired me grievously. There were Part of the *Five Nation* Indians at the Little Fort of *Niagara*, who used me very barbarously, making me dance for their Diversion, as long as I was able to stand or go, and do any Thing else as they pleased, and I bore all with Patience. During the Time we staid there, I and two Indians

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went

went to the great Fall, and, by the Help of the Roots of the Trees, got to the Bottom, where we found Plenty of Fish which had been killed by the Fall of the Water, which rushes down with amazing Violence, from a Height which is said to measure betwixt 250 and 300 Feet. There is a great River that shoots down these Falls, which comes out of Lake *Erie*, and from the Falls runs into *Ontario*, and so down into *St. Lawrence's* River. It is impossible to carry any Thing up from the Bottom of these Falls because they are so steep, and the very Birds that fly over them are drawn down; you may see a Mist rise from it like a great Smoke, at the Distance of above 30 Miles. We staid four Days there, and then went six Leagues on the River, to the Mouth of Lake *Erie*; but could go no farther, there was such a high Wind in the Lake. All the Indians went a hunting, and left me and two Squaws to take Care of the Canoe and their Things, and they staid two Days before they came back to the Canoe, and when they came they brought with them three Deer and Part of a Bear. A Bear is quite fat in the Fall of the Year, because they live upon Acorns and Chesnuts; and in the Winter they go and lye in a hollow Tree, or under the Roots of Trees which are blown down by the Wind, where they will stay till Spring, living upon nothing but licking their Paws, yet are as fat when they come out as when they went in, and then they fall away all at once till they are nothing but Skin and Bone.

I and

I and the Squaws were obliged to go after the Remainder of the Bear which they had left behind them. We went so far that we could not get back again the same Night, and being dark, and we very heavy loaden and tired, we made a Fire and laid ourselves down at the Foot of a Tree all Night ; it rained, thundered and lightened most dreadfully ; we got up in the Morning shivering and quaking, and, having shook our Blankets a little, took up our Loads, and went to our Canoe. We eat some Meat that was just warmed upon the Coals, and then set out for Lake *Erie*. This Lake you may see across in some Places, but it is counted the worst of all the Lakes, because it is so uneven at Bottom, and subject to Storms, and when the Wind is high it is impassable, for the Waves break and run so short, that there is no saving the Boats. We went all along the Side of the Shore till we came to the River *Detroit*, by which Time our Meat grew short, for we had nothing to eat for two Days. They told me that they would give me two Days more to live, to see if they could kill any thing or no ; and if they could get no other Provision, they would kill and eat me, and I expected nothing but Death ; however, the next Day we found a Deer swimming in the Lake, but I was fearful we could not catch him. We followed him four Hours ; at length, having tired him out, I killed him, and the Indians looked round and laughed at me ; but I was not in in a laughing Humour, being shocked to think



that my Life was so very near an End. I thanked God for my good Success in catching the Deer, or I should have been dispatched before Night. We got into the River *Detroit*; which is a very fine Country, well inhabited both by French and Savages; the Fort is built by the French Traders, to protect their Trade with the Indians. I saw no Place for any Cannon; we staid only one Day and one Night. The French gave me some Victuals, but the Indians took it all from me; and a Gentleman sent me a Glass of Liquor, which they beat out of my Hands, and told me not to take any more, if it was to save my Life. I then refused all that was brought me; but a Gentleman came down to us, and asked one of the Indians to go to his House, and bring the Prisoner along with him, meaning me. He refused at first; but when the Gentleman told him he would give him some Liquor, he went; and when we came to the Gentleman's House, they went into the Parlour, but I was sent into the Kitchen, and the Gentleman kept him in the Parlour till I had filled my Belly, and he persuaded the Indian to let me have a Glass of Liquor. He consented I should have one, but no more. When the Gentleman had given him what Liquor he thought proper, the Indian told him he must have some for his Comrades that were at the Canoe. Yes, said he, go to the Canoe and get a little Barrel and I will fill it. The Indian cried out to me, 'Come along down to the Canoe,' I went down with him, and they gave me a little Barrel

Barrel which held about three Gallons, and ordered me to go back to this Gentleman's House, and get it filled, but not to stay. I returned to the Gentleman's House, who used me very kindly, and made me welcome to any Thing that was in the House ; he would have bought me from them, but they would not sell me. He filled the Barrel and I carried it down to them, and he told me he would speak to them not to hurt me, as they would not sell me, and bid me send the Head Man of the Canoe I belonged to, which I did. He made the others stop till he came back from the Gentleman's House, and then they sat round and drank it out before they left off, and wanted more, but knew not where to have it. At last they sent me for some, and gave me two Bears Skins to pay for it, telling me if I did not bring some, they would kill me as soon as I came back. I went to the Gentleman and made my Case known to him ; he pitied me, and would not take the Skins, but filled my Bottle, and gave me a Loaf of Bread. When I returned back, they thought I had nothing but the Loaf, and were concluding to kill me if I had not brought the wooden Bottle full ; but when they found I had, they used me very well, and did not say one unkind Word to me. This was the first Time I had eat my Belly full since I had been with the *St. John's* Indians, which was six Months. We set out from thence to another French Fort called *Pontchartrain*, and there the Indians bartered what Skins they had,  
for

for other Neccessaries they wanted. They got some Indian Corn and other Provisions, and then we set out for *Huron-Lake* ; we went to the South Side of the Lake till we came to *Sanguinams*, where we staid two Months a hunting, and had very good Success, for we got as many Skins as we could well carry of all Sorts. From thence we went to *Michillimakinak* Fort, belonging to the French, and there they again changed all their Skins for whatever they wanted. We proceeded next to *St. Mary*, and from thence into Lake *Royal*. We were so hard drove at *Long Point* in the Lake, that we run upon a little Rock, and broke a Hole in our Canoe, which obliged us to put ashore as fast as possible, or we must have sunk, the Water running in faster than we could fling it out ; but I thank God we got ashore safe. Their Food being quite gone before they had compleatly fitted their Canoe, I was much afraid they would kill me, and made all Preparations for Death I could ; but luckily they had two Dogs with them, which they killed, and these were all that ten Indians, two Squaws, and myself had to subsist on, till we came to the River *St. Croix*, where we killed some Beaver and Deer. From this River we proceeded to the *Sister's Fort*, where we traded for every Thing we wanted, and the Indians bought another Gun, and Plenty of Ammunition, because they were going down the *Mississippi* River. They knew there was Plenty of wild Beasts in these Parts, so we went down to the Fork of *Mississippi* River,

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In this River there are different Soils: in some Places it is very black, in others upon the yellow; in some very sandy, black and grey mixed; and in others very yellow and sandy for Miles together; but in the Valleys it is very fine black Land. We staid here hunting during the Winter, till the wild Beasts changed their Country, which they usually do in the Spring. Here they built another Canoe, and they had now so many Skins of one Sort or another, that it was a hard Matter to make both Canoes hold them. We dried Meat in the Smoke all the Winter, to keep in the Summer; this Meat is dried till it is as hard as a Board. We went from thence to *Akanfas* Fort, where they traded for all that they had with the French. This is the finest Country I ever saw, the Weather is exceedingly pleasant, there being hardly any perceivable Winter. It is well inhabited by the French and Indians on both Sides the River; but little Money passes amongst them, as those who have any Silver take Care to keep it. They trade wholly with Skins, with which they purchase all their Neccessaries. One Side of the River now belongs to the English. We next visited the *Chaftaws* Nation, where they made me run the Gantlope, beating me most cruelly, so that my Body was black and blue with the Blows they gave me; and what was almost as bad, I had nothing to eat for two Days, which made me think they intended to starve me. These Indians are of the same Colour with those of *St. John*, but more blood-

blood-thirsty than any I had yet been with. From thence we went to the *Chickesaws* Nation, where I was treated as cruelly as ever before. This Nation have the Ears split, and they hang down almost upon their Shoulders, and they have very large brass Ear-rings in their Ears, great Feathers stuck in, and painted of various Colours all over their Faces, and their Bodies pricked with Thorns in the Shape of all Sorts of wild Beasts and Snakes. One Day, after they had eat heartily, they called for me, and some of them fastened on a Stick four or five white Thorns which were very long, and, tying my right Arm to a Tree that was blown down, pricked it to such a Degree that the Flesh worked above the Skin, and then they rubbed their Indian Paint in it till it swelled as big as my Leg. Still they had no Mercy on me, but made me cut Wood, make Fires, and fetch Water, and go with them a hunting; I was forced always to lye upon the Ground under some Tree, and they never looked at my Arm, though in so bad a Condition that I could sleep neither Day nor Night, and I feel the ill Effects of it to this Hour, not having the same Use of it as I have of the other. Thence we went through the *Cherokees* Nation, where they once more made me run the Gantlope, and they flung Sticks and Stones at me: One Stick stuck in my Back, and they almost beat one of my Eyes out, so that I could not see out of it for above a Month, yet they never applied any Thing to it, but they did put a little  
Gum

Gum upon my Back, where the Stick wounded me. We staid all the Summer near the *Cherokee* Nation till *October*, by which Time all our Provisions were spent, for the Indians never provide for their future Subsistence, but depend upon what they kill every Day. They now went a hunting, but to no Purpose, and were two Days without a Mouthful of any Kind of Food, which I had not tasted for four Days and five Nights; I used to take a Handful of Leaves and suck them. I now began to reflect, with Grief, on my Disobedience to my Parents, which had reduced me to the miserable Condition I was in at present, my Life being always in Danger, and indeed now grown almost a Burden to myself. Some of them having come home one Day from hunting, without Success, they were almost starved with Hunger, and grew quite distracted. I was in a still worse Condition, having fasted much longer than them; they bid me fling off my Blanket, and took away my Stockings, the Moccasins off my Feet, and every Thing else I had, to the very Bridge-Clout that covered my Nakedness, and bid me follow them; they led me to a Tree, and tyed me to it, I did not know their Intention, but expected that Death would now put an End to my Sufferings. Soon after came home the rest of the Indians, but brought no Provision with them; they now went all Hands to cutting Wood, and bringing it close by me, they made their Death-Cry for me, which the *Cherokees* hearing,



came down, and asked them what they were going to do ; they answered to kill me : They asked them for what ; they said, because they had nothing to eat, and could not live upon the Wind. The *Cherokees* bid them untye me, saying it was a Shame to kill me after I had been so long with them, and told them they would give them as much Meat as they would have. One of the *Cherokees* came and cut the Indian Collars I was tied with, and asked me where my Blanket and other Things were ; I told him the Indians had taken away every Thing. He went and got them ; and then asked me in English, how long I had been without eating : I told him that was the fifth Day. He asked me if I was hungry ; I told him no, for my Appetite had left me. He then bid me follow him to their Village, which I did ; and they gave me some Indian Corn that was first boiled in a Lye made of Ashes and Water boiled together ; in this the Corn breaks and grows soft, and then they put their dried Meat in, and just warm it through, or their fresh Meat, when they have any from their hunting. Thus they make their Broth of the Indian Corn and Flesh, and sometimes will dry the Corn after it is boiled, take off the Hulls, and pound it to Powder, then boil a whole Kettle full of Meat, and mix the pounded Corn with the Liquor. Of the Meat boiled in this Manner, I made a good Meal, and if they had given me as much as I could have eat, I believe I should have killed myself, for I thought it a dainty Morsel,

Morsel, though without Salt or Bread, I returned them hearty Thanks for giving me Food, and preserving me from the cruel Death I must have suffered. I returned back with the Indians I belonged to, and we set out from thence for *Buffaloes* River, where we remained till the latter End of *June*, and killed many wild Beasts, especially Beavers.

The Beaver is about the Size of a small Mastiff, with a short Head, round Ears, and very long Teeth; the under Teeth stand out of their Mouths about 3 Fingers Breadth, and the upper half a Finger, being broad, crooked, strong, and sharp; growing double, very deep in the jaws, bend like the Edge of an Ax, and are of a yellowish red Colour. The Sagacity of these Animals in building their Huts is really very surprizing: They assemble in Troops of sometimes 2 or 300, and fix on a Place where Plenty of Provisions is to be had. Their Houses are always in the Water, and when they can find neither Lake nor Pond, they stop the Current of a Brook or small River, by Means of a Dam. They cut down the Wood of which their Huts are made, with their Teeth, as near the River as possible, and having placed it as they please, they lay on it the Branches of Trees, and fill all the vacant Places with a Sort of Clay, so as no Water can penetrate them. They prepare the Clay with their Paws, and their Tails serve instead of a Carriage, as well as a Trowel to lay on their Clay. Their Huts consist of three or four Apartments made under Ground, in the lowest of which they take  
F 2 their

their Rest, sleeping with their Tails in the Water. They live on Fruits, Branches, Bark and Leaves of Trees; and likewise catch small Fish. They are sometimes taken in Traps laid on the Shore, and sometimes in Nets placed in the Water.

We now did not want for any Kind of Meat, Fish, or Fowl, but had neither Salt nor Bread. I had not tasted Bread or Salt but once in nine Months, which was at the Gentleman's House where I was with the Indian, as mentioned before; this was the only House I had been in for two Years. These Savages make no Distinction between *Sunday* and other Days. If they are a Day or two without eating, and then catch two or three Deer, they will hang on a great Kettle, and fill it full of Meat, and as soon as it is warm through, will eat till their Bellies are full, and then lye down to sleep, and continue eating and sleeping till their Food is all gone, and then perhaps will seek for more, but never till then, and sometimes they will even stay a Day or two after all their Food is exhausted. Here are Multitudes of the Flies called Musketoos, and little black Flies, some about as big as a Pin's Head, and some as small as the Point, of these the smallest are the most troublesome; the Indians prevent them from biting by rubbing themselves all over with Bear's Grease, and drying it in. This River is not very wide, and has a great deal of Meadow-Ground on each Side of it. The Country is very fruitful and pleasant; its worst Quality is, that it abounds  
with



with venomous Creatures, especially in the Meadows, such as Rattle Snakes and Black Snakes, and some Tygers, but not many, and those not very fierce, but there are thousands of Wolves that came round us all Night.

The Rattle Snakes here are of two Kinds: one very long, and large in Proportion; and the other short and thick; some of the Size of the Small of one's Leg, and some a little larger, if there is a Squirrel or Bird in a Tree they will lye at the Bottom, and entice them down into their Mouths. People who are hunting, must take Care not to tread on them, though they always give Warning before they leap, by rattling their Tails, in which they have as many Rattles as they are Years old; but if you touch them with any thing they will give no Warning, but jump at you directly.

In this Part of the Country there was not above two Months Winter, the Snow laid but one Week on the Ground. Here is Plenty of wild Pigeons and other wild Fowl throughout the Year, and likewise wild Beasts of all Sorts. While we were there three Canoes of Indians came by, with two Prisoners; they came from the *Ohio*, after General *Braddock's* Defeat. I heard them relating their Treatment of an Englishman in an Island opposite Fort *Duquesne*, which they called fine Diversion. They stripped him quite naked, and tying him to a Tree, made two large Fires on each Side of him and perfectly roasted him alive, while they danced round him, paying no Regard to his moving Lamentations;

mentations ; when they had danced till they were almost tired, one of the young Indians ran in between the two Fires and cut off his private Parts, and put them into his Mouth to stop his crying ; they then danced round him again, and another Indian ripped his Belly open, and then they had another Dance, after which another Indian cut out his Heart, broiled and eat it, and sucked his Blood, while the other two Prisoners were tied to Trees, and Spectators of this dismal Tragedy. The next Morning the two poor Prisoners went away with Tears in their Eyes with these wild Indians, whom the French call *Creeks*. They commonly go naked ; their Country reaches beyond Lake *Superior*. We next proceeded up the River till we came to a French Fort called *Buffaloes Fort*, where there is a Carrying-Place, seven Leagues through the Woods, to Fort *La Presquile*. This is close to Lake *Erie*. We were three Days carrying the Canoes with our Furs and Skins. We went from Fort *La Presquile* for the little Fort *Niagara*, and were so very deep loaded, that we could not go far on the Lake in a Day. Three Days after we got to the Point of *Sturgeon*, where we were obliged to stay twenty-three Days, the Wind being so high in the Lake. They made me stand in Water up to the Chin to hold the Canoes, to prevent them from dashing to Pieces one against another, but the Wind rising, they were forced to unload, and it was almost Time, for I had been seven Hours in the Water, with the Waves washing over my  
my

my Head, and almost perished with cold, while they were warming themselves by a good Fire; but they never regard what a poor Prisoner suffers. When the Canoes were unloaded and out of the Water, I was obliged to cut Wood and bring enough to last the Night, and when any of them waked, they made me rise and make up their Fire. We had nothing to eat but Meat dried in the Smoak, for the Wind was so high we could not attempt to cross the Point to get into the River, but as soon as the Lake was calm, we loaded our Canoes, and got to Little *Niagara* Fort, where we staid all Night. We were two Days and a half carrying the Canoes and Skins down the three high Hills I mentioned before, to the River below the Falls, and then we had three Leagues to *Niagara* Fort. The Fort stands upon the Point of the Lake *Ontario*. When we came to Fort *Niagara*, the Indians traded with the Store-keeper for some of our Skins, to unload us a little, in order to go down the Rapids. We went from the Fort to the South Side of the Lake *Ontario*, to be in Readiness for setting out the next Morning, we were two Days going to *Oswego*, where they traded with the English something more, because we were yet too heavy to go down the Rapids; we crossed the Lake, and went to Fort *Le Gallet*, where we stopped as we went up the Country, and staid two Days to rest ourselves before we went into the Rapids. We set out the next Day for *Montreal*, which is thirty Leagues



Leagues distant ; when we came to the Mouth of the Rapids, we stopped a little while, and drank each of us about a Gill of Rum, and threw down our Blankets. These Rapids are extremely shocking to the View. We were quickly through the first of them, the Water carrying the Canoe so swiftly, and being so rough, that it is impossible to count twenty Trees together as you pass. The Indians were all the while singing their Death-Song, which they always do when they are in Danger. When we came to the Cedar Rapids, we were obliged to go down in the Middle of the River ; there is an Island at the lower End of the Rapids, and a little Fall about four Feet perpendicular, but the Water being very high, we did not feel much of the Fall, except a little Jump. When we came to the Main Land they gave me some Indian Corn and another Glass of Rum, we got within three Leagues of *Montreal* that Night, and the next Morning early we arrived there. All the Merchants came to buy the Skins of the Indians, but they would not sell any that Night, nor the next Day, but walked about the Town. Several Merchants asked them to go to their Houses, however, they would not then deal with any one, but the next Day they traded for most Part of what they had. They got Plenty of every Thing, but gave me nothing ; the French, however, pitied me, and gave me Bread and Meat sily, which I was obliged to go out of their Way to eat, or they would have beat me and taken it away. The

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next Day we set off for *Quebec*, and when we came there got Plenty of Provisions, Rum, Brandy, and Tobacco. They filled their Canoe full of one Thing or other, and when the Tide was turned, we set out for the Island of *St. John*, and were two Months going thither, where we staid five Weeks, and then went to *Sbediack*, from thence to *Memblem Cooke*, and then to *Shepherd*: In this Village I met the Interpreter belonging to the French, who asked me where I was going; I told him I was a Prisoner with the Indians; he said he would go to the commanding Officer and acquaint him of it, and he was sure he would buy me off from them. The next Morning the Chevalier *La Corn*, Captain in the French Service, sent for the chief Man of the Wiggwam I belonged to, and asked him if he would sell me: He told him he did not know whether the rest would agree to it, for I was likewise the Property of four more, but he would let him know the next Day. The Day following they went and agreed to sell me for four hundred Livres and a Cask of Rum that held sixteen Gallons and a half, and I was to serve him four Years and a half, and then to have my Liberty. The Chevalier *La Corn* sent me with two Frenchmen to the *Bay of Arts*, where I was to stay with the Store-Keeper, till a Sloop came to that Place. I staid there seven Months, when a Vessel came from *Louisbourg* to the *Bay of Arts*, with two Deserters on board, who, with those that were

in *La Cadée* made forty-six. They were much better used than I was, and when we came to *Quebec*, they had Provisions allowed them, but I was sent to the General's Hospital, till the Chevalier *La Corn* came to *Quebec*, and was forced to work at all Kinds of Husbandry, during the Space of three Years. When the Chevalier came, he bid me fetch what Cloaths I had; this I told him might soon be done, as I had but two Shirts, one Pair of Stockings, a Pair of Moguffons, and a Pair of Breeches, and about three Livres in Money, which was given me by the Nuns at the Hospital. I had not lain in a Bed before I was at the General's Hospital, for three Years and five Months, during which Time, I never wore Hat or Cap, or had a Shirt upon my Back, nor wore a Pair of Breeches or Shoes, except Snow Shoes, nor had I laid in a House; my Sleep was often interrupted by Night, and my Thoughts by Day, by reflecting what I had gone through, among these brutal Savages, but now I returned God Thanks that I lived once more among Christians. When I served the Chevalier *La Corn*, my Business was to look after one Horse, and drive him in a Snow Coach all the Winter; and in the Summer he sent me to his Farm in the Country to work. I lived very well, and wanted for nothing except Cloaths; and as soon as my Time was out, my Master gave me an honourable Discharge, and Leave to go to Work for my own Advantage in any Part of  
*Canada.*



*Canada.* This Gentleman paid me very well, considering I was a Prisoner, and the Expence he had been at, in buying me from the Indians. I went and worked five Leagues out of *Quebec* with a Farmer by the Month, and in Winter he sent a great deal of Wood to *Quebec* to sell to the French. I staid all Winter with him, and then undertook to go up the Country with the French to *Detroit*, for two hundred Livres. We were gone sixteen Months from *Montreal*. On our Return, the French told me that the English were coming to take *Quebec*, and that they were in the River; I was determined to try to get to my Countrymen, and to this Purpose bought a Canoe, that was made out of a Tree, which cost me threescore Livres; and bought me some Bread, which was all I provided, and went from *Montreal* to *St. Augustin*, which is within five Leagues of *Quebec*; the Tide came in so fast that I was obliged to go ashore, and fastened my Canoe the while; in the mean Time twenty-two Canoes loaded with Indians put ashore at the same Place I did, they were going down to *Quebec* to join the French Army which was then waiting for the English. I was obliged to run away and leave my Canoe to save my Life; and they not finding any Wood, cut up my Canoe and burnt it. This obliged me to return to *Montreal*. There was no Possibility of going towards *Quebec*, as there were so many Guards to pass by, otherwise I could have join'd the English next Tide with infinite Pleasure. I returned

turned to Work behind *Montreal* again, and one Day as I was driving a Cart-load of Hay, I met the People going to Church ; and when I came back, saw them all crying ; I asked them what was the Matter ; they told me the English had taken *Quebec* ; to which I replied the English would take the rest of the Country by and by. In the Spring, every young Man was commanded to go on Detachment to attempt the retaking *Quebec*, but all their Endeavours proved in vain, for, after losing a great many Men, they were obliged to return home. General *Murray* came up the River to *Montreal*, and General *Amberst* on the other Side came down the River to the Back of the Town. I went and joined General *Amberst's* Army, and when *Montreal* was taken, the General told me I might go where I pleased ; but Captain *Crummy* bid me come to see him the next Day ; I accordingly went to him several Times ; and he told me to go to General *Hobson's* Camp, and stay there till he sent for me, which he did the next Day to go to *Quebec* with five Officers, to serve them as Interpreter, and when we came to *Quebec* they rewarded me for my Trouble. These Gentlemen brought a Letter to the Major of the Regiment I belonged to before, and I went to him and shewed my Certificate, which was given me by the Chevalier *La Corn*. The Major sent me to the Quarter-Master Serjeant to get my Cloathing, and go to my Barracks, and the Company I belonged to before, and they gave me Arms and

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Accoutrements. I now wrote home to my Friends for the first Time in twelve Years; the Spring following I received an Answer that my Father was dead, and upon this went I to the Commander of our Regiment, and asked him for a Furlow to go home; he told me he could not give me one at that Time: I wrote home in the Fall of the Year, and sent it by some of our Men that were recommended to pass the Board for their Pension, and received a Letter informing me of my Mother's Death, and that all her Effects were left to me. On the 9th Day of *September*, 1762, I obtained a Furlow to come home, and landed in *England* the latter End of *October*.

I procured my Discharge the 10th of *February*, 1763, with the Loss of ten Year's Pay and Cloathing, and could obtain no Pension, though it has been granted to many who had not gone through any thing like the Miseries I suffered. When I came home, I was in Hopes to get some comfortable Settlement, but found it quite contrary, those who ought to have been my best Friends proved my worst Enemies, and my own Relations used their utmost Endeavours to ruin me.

And now, having spent my little Substance in trying to recover what was due to me, without Success, I am driven to the utmost Extremity, and, having been bred to no Trade, have no Way to get my Living but by Day-Labour, of which I am very incapable, by the Wound which I received



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ceived in my Right Arm. On these Considerations, I submit my Case, with the many Distresses I have gone through, and my present melancholy Situation, to the Consideration of the Humane and Benevolent, hoping for some Relief; and any Favours received, will be acknowledged with the utmost Gratitude,

*By their Distressed Humble Servant,*

HENRY GRACE.

F I N I S



